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THE YUGOSLAV CONFLICT: REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

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A little more than a year has passed since Slovenia and Croatia declared their independence on 25 June 1991, and the ensuing conflict in this Balkan country was ignited. Not since World War II has Europe witnessed a worst crisis, marked by vicious fighting directly affecting the civilian population, reported atrocities on all sides, waves of refugees seeking refuge in neighboring countries, economic collapse, and a conflict spreading into what world diplomats feared might happen--into Bosnia-Herzegovina, a complex multi-ethnic region. Worst yet, diplomats fear the conflict could spill over into Kosovo and Macedonia and involve neighboring countries.

For those scholars, diplomats, analysts and other researchers closely monitoring the conflict, this article brings together in one place citations to the multitude of literature published just before the beginning of the conflict through July 1992. Those wanting a good overview of the causes of the conflict will want to read the articles by Gow (1) and Hartley (1) and for an overview of the security problems in the whole region--Brown (1). Concerning the complex problem of internal borders read Moore (1) and Marinovic (7).

Section 6 contains a wide variety of Russian opinion concerning the conflict. Russia's official policy position on Yugoslavia is spelled out by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Kozyrev, while Khimenko, Rodionov, Nekrasov, Bogomolov, Shchipanov and Chudakov all criticize this policy. Crow summarizes the struggle between moderates and conservatives on this foreign policy question, and Gorlov is critical of U.S. policy in the region.

Croatian views are presented in section 4, while diametrically opposed Serbian views are listed in section 7. In section 4 note especially the Jurdana article which expresses the fear that the UNPROFOR operation may be a means for Serbia to control those parts of Croatia which it currently occupies. Martinovic is critical of U.S. policy, and Klemencic presents an extensive five-part series on Croatian interpretations of creation of a Greater Serbia. Croatian disappointment in the international community is outlined by Baric. Section 7 contains Serbian views including those of Perazic who discusses international interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state and a possible political solution to the crisis and Matovic who blames the European community for the war in Bosnia.

Researchers interested specifically in the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina should read two survey articles from February and June 1992 by Andrejevich (3) for background information leading up to the present situation. Moore (3) ("A New Phase") discusses recent opinion that the Serbs and Croats will partition Bosnia and Herzegovina and outlines the division of western policymakers over their goals in the region and how to achieve them.

Problems in the Kosovo region and the Albanian question are addressed by Moore (5). Avdic-Vllasi (5) provides a Croatian viewpoint of the region. For a thorough overview of problems confronting newly independent Macedonia, such as its diplomatic recognition, and relations with Greece and Albanian nationalists, read Perry (5).

Defense analysts will want to read both Gow (2) for a survey of the various military formations involved in the conflict, their political affiliations, and leading figures and Arbuckle (2) for discussion of Serbian and Croatian

military strategies. Kipp (2) provides background information on the YPA and its role in the initial period of the conflict. Serbian assessments of Croatian forces are provided by Drecun (2), Pavlovic (2) and the Tanjug press release "Yugoslav Army on Strength" (2). A Croatian assessment of its own army, its organization, discipline, and future is made by Spegelj (2), chief inspector of the Croatian Army.

World diplomatic efforts have been intense in trying to solve the conflict politically. Member nations of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) have been involved in trying to avert civil strife since the summer of 1991 when a constitutional crisis arose in the country and threatened civil war. On the role of the CSCE consult Weitz (9) and Kornblum (3). The United Nations Security Council has been working toward establishing cease-fires and imposing trade sanctions. See Goshko (9), "UN Peace-Keeping" (9), and "Parties to Conflict" (9). Church (9) and Rodionov (6) discuss shortcomings in UN sanctions.

U.S. Government policy toward the conflict and the countries of the former Yugoslavia is outlined by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs Johnson (8), by Secretary of State Baker (8) and in the article "US Recognizes Former Yugoslav Republics" (8). Glynn (1) and Lukic (1) criticize these policies.

In June U.S. policymakers began intense debates on the extent of U.S. military involvement in the conflict and how best to provide humanitarian aid to besieged Sarajevo. Gellman (8) reports on the conflicting and diverse views within the government and defense community.

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